

ON THE PHONE

Jim Bridenstine
NASA Administrator



1
00:00:00,199 --> 00:00:01,260

NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine: Well,
thank you so much.

2
00:00:01,260 --> 00:00:05,010

It's an honor to be able to talk to the
whole team there.

3
00:00:05,010 --> 00:00:10,929

I want to start by thanking everybody who's
worked on this for such a long time.

4
00:00:10,929 --> 00:00:15,260

I know this isn't something that you put
together on a Saturday morning.

5
00:00:15,260 --> 00:00:21,110

This has been years of work by a whole host
of people, for a very long time, including

6
00:00:21,110 --> 00:00:23,890

JPL, and of course the launch crew at Vandenberg.

7
00:00:23,890 --> 00:00:32,870

I want to give a special thanks to ULA and
congratulate them on 128 total successful

8
00:00:32,870 --> 00:00:39,030

launches in a row, 78 specifically for the
Atlas V. I want to thank our international

9
00:00:39,030 --> 00:00:41,900

partners, CNES and DLR, for their hard work.

10
00:00:41,900 --> 00:00:44,350

This is a big day.

11
00:00:44,350 --> 00:00:51,010

We're going back to Mars; we did it from

the West Coast, which is a first ever; we're

12
00:00:51,010 --> 00:00:55,100
going to look deep inside the interior of
Mars and we're going to create a 3-D image

13
00:00:55,100 --> 00:01:01,059
of what's going on inside of Mars; and of
course, the launch of our CubeSats into deep

14
00:01:01,059 --> 00:01:02,059
space.

15
00:01:02,059 --> 00:01:06,149
This is an extraordinary mission with a whole
host of firsts.

16
00:01:06,149 --> 00:01:08,180
It's important for our country.

17
00:01:08,180 --> 00:01:14,219
It's also important for the world, and it
really establishes American leadership in

18
00:01:14,219 --> 00:01:15,680
a lot of ways.

19
00:01:15,680 --> 00:01:21,689
I just wanted to make sure everybody knew
how grateful we are here at Headquarters – and

20
00:01:21,689 --> 00:01:26,960
especially me, since this is my first launch
as the NASA administrator – that everything

21
00:01:26,960 --> 00:01:28,310
went so well.

22
00:01:28,310 --> 00:01:30,759

And congratulations to everybody involved.

23
00:01:30,759 --> 00:01:37,909
If it's OK, I'd also like to introduce
the team there to Thomas Zurbuchen, whom I

24
00:01:37,909 --> 00:01:39,759
know many of you know.

25
00:01:39,759 --> 00:01:45,079
He's the associate administrator of the
NASA Science Mission Directorate here at Headquarters.

26
00:01:45,079 --> 00:01:46,789
And I'll let him address you as well.

27
00:01:46,789 --> 00:01:48,630
Thomas Zurbuchen, associate administrator,
Science Mission Directorate: Thanks so much,

28
00:01:48,630 --> 00:01:49,630
Jim.

29
00:01:49,630 --> 00:01:50,630
I'm just really excited, just like you.

30
00:01:50,630 --> 00:01:56,640
We're enjoying a great morning, crossing
fingers and living through all the animations,

31
00:01:56,640 --> 00:02:01,439
of course, and all the explanations that we
got from the team, both on camera and in the

32
00:02:01,439 --> 00:02:02,439
room.

33
00:02:02,439 --> 00:02:06,289
I just wanted to thank the whole team – this

is a team effort, like you just said – but

34

00:02:06,289 --> 00:02:10,270

also I wanted to tell you how much we're looking forward to doing the science, and

35

00:02:10,270 --> 00:02:15,819

doing all this harvesting of everything we've been dreaming about in the last few years.

36

00:02:15,819 --> 00:02:19,000

[inaudible] Sometimes putting these things together.

37

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:21,030

Space missions are hard – that's why we do it.

38

00:02:21,030 --> 00:02:22,790

Not because they're easy.

39

00:02:22,790 --> 00:02:26,750

And I just look forward to what we're going to learn from this amazing mission once we

40

00:02:26,750 --> 00:02:29,250

arrive on the other side of this journey.

41

00:02:29,250 --> 00:02:30,250

Thanks, Jim.

42

00:02:30,250 --> 00:02:31,379

Bridenstine: That is awesome.

43

00:02:31,379 --> 00:02:32,709

Well thank you Thomas.

44

00:02:32,709 --> 00:02:37,580

And Tim, I appreciate you giving me the opportunity

to address everybody there.

45

00:02:37,580 --> 00:02:41,390

And, again, congratulations on a very successful launch.

46

00:02:41,390 --> 00:02:45,329

NASA Launch Manager Tim Dunn: Thank you so much, sir, for taking time to speak to the

47

00:02:45,329 --> 00:02:46,329

team.

48

00:02:46,329 --> 00:02:47,329

It means a lot to us.

49

00:02:47,329 --> 00:02:51,629

If you were watching the video, you probably saw the level of excitement out here.

50

00:02:51,629 --> 00:02:57,739

We are thrilled to be part of the first-ever launch from the West Coast going interplanetary.

51

00:02:57,739 --> 00:03:02,340

Thank you and Mr. Zurbuchen for taking time to speak to us this morning.

52

00:03:02,340 --> 00:03:03,340

Bridenstine: Awesome.